STATEMENT of Corporal Ronald L. ROWE 1538428/6741 USMC

On or about 1905 January 5, 1958 Lt. CHERRIE and myself were checking guard posts at the airstrip area. We had checked the crypto watch and were driving around the other side of the hangar to check another sentry when Pfc PERSONS who was crypto watch at the time whistled for us. He told us he had heard a shot fired from the area of the vehicles parked on the other side of the airstrip. Immediately Lt. CHERRIE and I drove over and found Pvt. SCHRAND laying on the ground bleeding very badly. Lt. CHERRIE then went and called for ambulance. I stayed with Pvt. SCHRAND. I did not see anyone around the area. SCHRAND was unconscious and did not move, however he groaned about two or three times. Some sailors came in the meanwhile and tried to help. The ambulance then arrived and took Pvt. SCHRAND to the hospital. I then talked to Commander WALIBRIDGE of the security force and told him everything I knew. When I examined the weapon SCHRAND was carrying at the time it had one discharged shell in the chamber. I turned the weapon over to the doctors at the hospital.

Pvt. SCHRAND, being the first sentry on post that evenihg, was instructed by myself on the limitations of his post, and of his special orders before taking over his duties as sentry, at about 1710. After I had checked the weapon and found it to be in good working condition, I gave it to him along with five rounds of ammunition which he put in his pocket. Pvt. SCHRAND, along with the other sentries, had been instructed that day during the daily guard school on the handling and carrying of the shotgun. They had also demonstrated to me the loading and unloading of the weapon. As a result, Pvt. SCHRAND stood guard duty and attended guard school at least the two days previous, the guard then being under verbal appointment, with no guard log being kept.

Ronald L Rowe
RONALD L. ROWE

ENCLOSURE (4)